Page 2 Ronny Knepple et al. November 21, 2002

10. (Amended) A method for labeling  $\underline{a}$  sample container[s], comprising the steps of:

providing a container for holding a sample to be analyzed;
elevating a temperature of the container to an elevated temperature above a
sample analysis temperature, which is greater than ambient temperature; and
applying container identification to the container at the elevated temperature.

Please add the following new claim:

14. A method for labeling a sample container, comprising the steps of:

providing a container for holding a sample to be analyzed;

elevating a temperature of the container to an elevated temperature above a degassing temperature, which is greater than a sample analysis temperature; and applying container identification to the container at the elevated temperature.